THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Public Accounts Committee recommendations on primary education

1493. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of the recommendations made by Public Accounts Committee regarding primary education ; and

(b) what action Government have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) The details of recommendations/observations made by Public Accounts Committee regarding Primary Education are contained in its 134th report (8th Lok Sabha) on Universal Elementary Education, which was presented to Lok Sabha on 29-4-1988 and laid in the Rajya Sabha on 29-4-88.

(b) The Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations of Public Accounts Committee was submitted to Public Accounts Committee. The Public Accounts Committee considered the Action Taken by Government in its 11th Report (1991-92—10th Lok Sabha), which was presented to Lok Sabha on 18-3-1992 and laid in Rajya Sabha on 18-3-1992. The report was received in the Ministry during March, 1992 and is being studied for appropriate action.

Appointments in M.C.D.

1494. SHRI N. E. BALARAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Commissioner of Municipal Corporation, Delhi through circular No. PSC/92/151 dated 24th March, 1992 has stopped filling up of all vacant posts in the Department of Education till further orders ;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that some appointments to the post of Assistant Education Officer were made vide order No. F. 10(2)/CEDC(ii)/86/Part file/151/5702-22 dated 26th March, 1992 ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The circular dated 24th March, 1992 issued by the Commissioner of MCD is applicable in respect of vacancies occurring after 1-1-92. The circular is not applicable in respect of operational and essential posts.

(b) Yes, Sir. Because the vacancies pertain to the period prior to 1-1-92 and their filling up is essential in the public interest.

(c) Six vacancies under direct recruitment quota were referred to the UPSC in the year 1990 for selection of candidates and the UPSC has recommended 6 candidates on 30-5-91. The filling up of these vacancies is essential because they pertain to the period prior to 1-1-92 and are also in the public interest.

Problems of the Urban Child

1495. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a 3 day conference to high-light the plight of the urban child was held in the first week of April in New Delhi ;

(b) if so, what are the details of the observations and suggestions made therein ; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto, and the manner in which Government propose to resolve the problems of the urban-child highlighted therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

(SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. A National Consultation on the Urban Child sponsored by the Planning Commission, UNICEF and the Ministry of Urban Development, was organised by the National Institute of Urban Affairs in April 1992 in New Delhi.

(b) Participants at the National Consultation were generally of the view that the needs of urban children, especially those living in low income neighbourhoods, need specially targetted attention. Some of the other important suggestions at the Consultation were :

(i) Strategies for provision of social services should be framed keeping in view the different size/class of cities, their financial resource base and attuned to the community's specific needs.

(ii) Health care facilities for the mother and child should be neighbourhood-based, user-friendly in relation to timing and should involve close community participation.

(iii) The problem of malnutrition is more intense in the slum segments of towns/cities and strategies aimed at tackling this problem should take care of disease surveillance and prevention, environmental sanitation, nutrition education through contact with mothers and linked with efforts at developing an appropriate food security system at the household level.

(iv) The school should be the focal point both for formal education with flexibility in terms of timings, multiple shifts and skill based curriculae and special efforts should be made for working out community based and low cost options for early childhood stimulation and strategies for improving the enrolment and retention of the girl child.

(v) Problems relating to children especially in difficult circumstances such as street children, working children, abused children and children in conflict with the law need to be addressed through conscientisation of the public, community counselling units and a revamped rehabilitative system. One of the significant suggestions made was the dire need for mobilising the community to participate in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of programmes and to coordinate the efforts of different Government departments and voluntary agencies in an integrated manner.

(c) In collaboration with State Governments and UNICEF, the Central Government is implementing a scheme called urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP) which seeks to provide social services in an integrated manner in low income neighbourhoods through neighbourhood committees. The Government will utilise the suggestions made at the National Consultation in the implementation of this scheme.

Transfer guidelines for 1992-93

1496. DR. R. K. PODDAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the transfer guidelines for teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas for 1992-93 beginning from 1st May 1992 have not yet been formulated ; and

(b) if so, the justification of ordering transfer of ten teachers in advance for the next session made on 31st March, 1992 ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) The general guidelines for transfer for 1992-93 are under formulation. However, transfers are normally an ongoing process throughout the year specially on medical grounds and other compassionate or administrative grounds. The Chairman in his discretion has allowed certain transfers.